

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01611 020007Z

72

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

OIC-04 EB-11 HEW-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15

AID-20 SWF-02 DRC-01 /207 W
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R 012319Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3887

UNCLAS USUN 1611

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECOSOC, UN, SGEN

SUBJ: 56TH ECOSOC--NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN ACHIEVING FAR-
REACHING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES FOR THE PUR-
POSE OF SOCIAL PROGRESS (ITEM 8(A))

REF: USUN 1593

1. ECOSOC SOCIAL COMITE CONTINUED DISCUSSION MAY 1 AM. SESSION ON NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN ACHIEVING FAR-REACHING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOCIAL PROGRESS. AFTERNOON SESSION DEFERRED AT SUGGESTION OF POLISH DEL IN DEFERENCE TO "INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST WORKERS" DAY.
2. US REP (PICKER) INTRODUCED US DRAFT RES (TRANSMITTED REFTEL TO DEPT) WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY SUPPORTIVE STATEMENTS BY MANY DELS.
3. AUSTRALIA (CURTIN) NOTED NEED FOR STUDY ON SOCIAL INDICATORS AND WAS GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE OF US DRAFT. CANADA ALSO SUPPORTED US, STATING IT WAS POSSIBLE TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER IN DEVISING METHODS TO MEASURE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.
4. EGYPT (BADAWI) SUGGESTED SOME MINOR AMENDMENTS WHICH CAN BE INCORPORATED IN US TEXT, SAID SOCIAL ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT VERY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 USUN N 01611 020007Z

COMPLEX AND SUPPORTED ANY MOVE DEEPENING OUR KNOWLEDGE OF SOCIAL

INDICATORS.

5. JAMAICAN REP (MAIR) RECALLED DDI, AND PERHAPS MID-TERM REVIEW OF DDII, SHOW THAT LDCS HAVE NOT MADE SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL PROGRESS. THE NEED, THEREFORE, FOR RELEVANT SOCIAL INDICATORS IS IMPORTANT AS TOOLS IN THE REIVEW AND APPRAISAL PROCESS TO ASSIST IN IMPROVING SOCIAL CONDITIONS. SHE SUGGESTED SEVERAL MINOR REVISIONS WHICH WE ARE ALBE TO ACCEPT IN US DRAFT.

6. USSR (S.N. SMIRNOV) IN PRELIMINARY INTERVENTION, STATED SOCIAL INDICATORS CANNOT BE UNIFORM AND CANNOT BE TAKEN IN ISOLATION FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, MEASUREMENT OF CHANGE OF LIVING STANDARDS, UNEMPLOYMENT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. SOVIET REP EXPRESSED DOUBT AS TO APPROPRIATENESS OF US RES SINCE SOCIAL INDICATOR QUESTION NOT BEFORE COUNCIL AS SEPARATE ITEM. HE PROMISED TO HAVE MORE COMPLETE INTERVENTION, WITH AMENDMENTS TO US DRAFT, AT NEXT MEETING OF SOCIAL COMITE.

7. UK REP (BROAD) IN SUPPORTIVE STATEMENT SAID US RES WAS EXTREMELY HELPFUL AND WOULD TIE TOGETHER ECOSOC RESES 1746, 1747, AND 1748 IN PACKAGE TO ASSIST IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

8. ITALY (CAO PINNA), ONE OF THE MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE REPS ON THIS QUESTION ATTENDING SOCIAL COMITE, SUBMITTED HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS, INCLUDING MODIFICATIONS TO PARA 3 US DRAFT WHICH WE HAVE ACCOMMODATED TO OUR MUTUAL SATISFACTION.

9. SEVERAL DELS REFERRED TO WORK OF UNRISD AND INQUIRED OF SECT WHAT ACTIVITY THE INSTITUTE WAS PRESENTLY UNDERTAKING. SYG REP WALTERS REPLIED THAT IN RESPONSE TO ECOSOC 1748 UNRISD AGREED THAT NO NEW PROJECTS WOULD BE STARTED BUT WOULD CONCENTRATE ON STUDY ON A) DATA BANK; B) PROGRESS IN DEVELOPMENT ON LOCAL LEVELS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, SOCIAL CHANGE, PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN01611
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740104-0912
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740581/aaaacvaj.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USUN 1593
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 OCT 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <03 JAN 2003 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 56TH ECOSOC--NATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN ACHIEVING FAR- REACHING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES FOR THE PUR-
TAGS: SGEN, US, ECOSOC, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005